



NEWS RELEASE

July 27, 2009

MEDIA ADVISORY**U.S. SPORTS ENVOYS TO HOLD BASKETBALL CLINICS
FOR LOCAL ENTHUSIASTS IN MANILA**

Miami Heat Head Coach Erik Spoelstra, former U.S. Women National Basketball Association all-star Sue Wicks, who is now Assistant Coach of the St. Francis College Terriers, and Miami Heat Assistant Coach David Fizdale will be in the Philippines next week as part of the U.S. Department of States' Sports Envoy Program.

There will be a photo opportunity immediately following Head Coach Spoelstra's arrival statement at around 1:15 p.m. on Monday, July 27.

The sports envoys will hold basketball clinics for players in selected colleges and high schools, out-of-school youth players, and professional players and coaches in Manila and Zamboanga. They also will meet with officials of various schools' athletic associations and professional groups.

Media interested in covering the clinics must be in place at the following times and locations:

DAY	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Wednesday	July 29	2:15 p.m.	Ynares Sports Arena, Pasig City
Thursday	July 30	8:15 a.m.	La Salle Greenhills Gymnasium, Ortigas Avenue, San Juan
		2:00 p.m.	San Beda College Gymnasium, Mendiola, Manila
Friday	July 31	2:00 p.m.	San Andres Gymnasium, Malate, Manila
Saturday	August 1	9:00 a.m.	San Andres Gymnasium, Malate, Manila

The Sports Envoy Program is designed to engage youth in discovering how success in athletics can be translated into the development of life skills and achievement in the classroom. The experience also provides Americans the opportunity to learn about foreign cultures and the challenges young people face today in other countries.

Media interested in covering the clinics must call the U.S. Embassy Press Office at 301-2363.

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Erik Spoelstra, Head Coach, Miami Heat

Erik Spoelstra begins his first season as Head Coach of the Miami HEAT and his 14th within the HEAT organization. He was elevated to his current post on April 28, 2008 when HEAT President Pat Riley stepped down as Head Coach. Known for his game preparation and superb attention to detail as the HEAT's Assistant Coach/Director of Scouting, Spoelstra had the primary role of developing game plans for upcoming opponents for the past seven seasons. To that end, he coordinated the video staff and advance scouts while overseeing the development of scouting reports and videos.

Spoelstra has also built a strong reputation as a teacher over the years by heading the Heat's Individual Player Development Program. Erik has worked with many of the HEAT's young players in areas of fundamentals, skill development and shooting. He also served as the head coach of the HEAT's summer league squad for three seasons (2005-07).

Additionally, Spoelstra helped design and integrate a proprietary statistical database and scouting software for the HEAT. The HEAT continue to use the state-of-the-art statistical software to evaluate team productivity, individual player productivity and trends for both the HEAT and the team's opponents. Spoelstra originally joined the HEAT as the team's video coordinator in 1995 where he spent two seasons preparing scouting tapes and developing the team's information technology for the coaching staff. He served as Assistant Coach/Video Coordinator the following two seasons (1997-99). He was then promoted to Assistant Coach/Advance Scout and served in that role for two seasons (1999-01) before being elevated to Assistant Coach/Director of Scouting. Spoelstra has become the NBA's youngest current head coach, born on November 1, 1970 in Evanston, IL. He is 70 days younger than the second youngest head coach, Lawrence Frank of the New Jersey Nets.

A 1992 graduate from the University of Portland with a degree in communications, Spoelstra was the starting point guard for four years for the Pilots and was named the West Coast Conference Freshman of the Year. After college he spent two years as a player/coach for Tus Herten, a team in the professional sports league of Germany. Spoelstra is the son of Jon Spoelstra, a long-time NBA executive who has guided the Portland Trail Blazers, Denver Nuggets and New Jersey Nets. His grandfather, Watson, was a Detroit Tigers beat writer for many years.

A native of Portland, Spoelstra resides in Miami.

Sue Wicks, Assistant Coach, St. Francis College



Sue Wicks, former Naismith Player of the Year Award winner and former Assistant Basketball Coach at Rutgers University, is in her second season as the Assistant Coach of the St. Francis College Terriers. Sue is a former WNBA all-star who played with the New York Liberty from 1997 to 2002. "We are truly blessed to have such a quality individual as Sue Wicks as a member of the coaching staff," said Milano. "She has both played and coached at the highest level and adds a wealth of knowledge and experience to our staff. Our post players are able to learn the position from one of the best. Sue is also a tremendous recruiting asset for our program."

Wicks, a native of Center Moriches, New York, played for Rutgers University from 1984 to 1988. While at Rutgers, she was named a Kodak All-American in 1986, 1987 and 1988, and in 1988 she won the Naismith Award as well as National Player of the Year Awards from U.S. Basketball Writers Association, Women's Basketball News Service and Street & Smith. She was Player of the Year in the Atlantic 10 Conference in 1986, 1987 and 1988, winning the Atlantic 10 Tournament MVP award in 1986 and 1988, and sharing it in 1987. She also was named to All-Regional Teams in the NCAA tournament in 1986 and 1987 and won a gold medal in the 1987 Pan-American Games. As the most highly decorated player in RU history, she holds the Rutgers records for points scored (2,655), rebounds (1,357), scoring average (21.2 ppg), rebounding average (10.9 rpg), field goals made (1,091) and attempted (2,099), free throws made (473) and attempted (641), and blocked shots (293). The scoring and rebounding totals are records for a male or female player at Rutgers.

Following her college career, before the WNBA was founded, Wicks spent more than 15 years playing professionally overseas in Italy, Japan, Spain and Israel. In 1997, she returned home for the inaugural WNBA season to play for the New York Liberty. By 1999, Wicks had assumed the starting center position for the Liberty, due in part to her defensive skills. She developed into an All-Star player, participating in each WNBA All-Star Game until her retirement. In 2000, she was awarded the Kim Perrot sportsmanship award. In 182 WNBA games played, Wicks scored 823 points, for a total of 4.5 points per game, had 182 assists for one assist per game,

recovered 788 rebounds, for a total of 4.3 per game, and had 158 blocks, for a total of 0.90 blocks per game. She finished her WNBA career with the eighth most shots blocked in WNBA history.

Sue Wicks was named to the Rutgers Basketball Hall of Fame in 1994 and was inducted into the University's Hall of Distinguished Alumni in 2005. Last April, she was enshrined into the Nassau County Sports Hall of Fame. She is only one of two Rutgers women's basketball players to have her jersey retired.



David Fizdale

Assistant Coach, Miami Heat

David Fizdale begins his first season as an assistant coach for the HEAT after serving the previous five seasons as an assistant coach for the Golden State Warriors and Atlanta Hawks. He began his professional career assisting in the HEAT's video room during the 1997-98 season. Among his responsibilities in his new role, Fizdale will be assisting in the areas of player development, scouting, game preparation and other duties assigned by Head Coach Erik Spoelstra.

The 34-year old Fizdale returns to Miami after spending the past four seasons (2004-08) as an assistant coach with the Atlanta Hawks where he played an instrumental role in the development of their young players. He helped the Hawks increase their win total in each of his final three seasons and during the 2007-08 season, they earned the franchise's first postseason appearance since 1999. He began his NBA coaching career as an assistant coach with the Golden State Warriors for one season (2003-04). Directly before joining the Warriors, Fizdale worked as an assistant coach for one season at Fresno State University (2002-03) where his responsibilities included player development and serving as the school's recruiting coordinator. After concluding his collegiate playing career and spending one year as the HEAT's video intern in 1997-98, he began his coaching career with a four-year stint (1998-2002) as an assistant coach at his alma mater, the University of San Diego. During his final year with the Toreros he was the top assistant for coach Brad Holland. While at USD, he was in charge of scheduling, served as the recruiting coordinator and worked in player development and on-court coaching.

A three-year starter at point guard while playing at the University of San Diego, Fizdale was selected to the All-West Coast Conference team after his senior season in 1996. A Los Angeles native, Fizdale earned a bachelor's degree in communications and a minor in sociology from San Diego in 1996. He is single and currently resides in Miami.